



Michigan Department of Community Health, 201 Townsend Street, Lansing, MI 48933

FLUBLOK INFLUENZA VACCINE

Flublok® is one of the new influenza vaccines that will be available in the 2013-14 influenza season. On March 25 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [posted a Q&A](#) on the vaccine. Here are some key points on Flublok®:

- It is a trivalent influenza vaccine.
- It is approved for use in adults ages 18 to 49 years.
- It does not use the influenza virus or chicken eggs in its manufacturing process.
- It has a shorter shelf life, with an expiration period of 16 weeks from the production date.

INFLUENZA-RELATED NEWS ARTICLES

- [Google Flu Trends Misrepresented the Severity of This Year's Flu Season \[Infographic\]](#)
- [The never-ending fight: influenza versus the world](#)
- [4th grader dies from flu](#)
- [Second strain of flu lingering in S.C.](#)
- [Really? The Claim: The Flu Shot Can Worsen Asthma](#)

INFLUENZA-RELATED JOURNAL ARTICLES

- [Changes in Severity of Influenza A\(H1N1\)pdm09 Infection from Pandemic to First Postpandemic Season, Germany](#)
- [Seasonal Patterns of Respiratory Syncytial Virus, Influenza A Virus, Human Metapneumovirus, and Parainfluenza Virus Type 3 Infections on the Basis of Virus Isolation Data between 2004 and 2011 in Yamagata, Japan](#)

MDCH IMMUNIZATION CONFERENCE - APRIL 22

Don't forget to register for the [Older Adolescent and Adult Immunization Conference](#) on April 22 at the Lansing Center. Featured speakers include Dr. William Atkinson from the Immunization Action Coalition and Dr. Carolyn B. Bridges from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For more information visit www.events.mphi.org and click on "Upcoming Events." We are expecting that this conference will fill up in advance, so please don't delay registering for this event.

PANDEMIC INFLUENZA

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services [established three new centers](#) to develop and manufacture medical countermeasures including vaccines and antivirals. The centers will aid in bringing new medical countermeasures to the market faster and would help to train the biopharmaceutical workforce needed in the future. One of the three plants in Texas is a [joint effort](#) between GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and the Texas A&M University System (TAMUS). The \$91 million facility will make cell-based influenza vaccines as part of the nation's pandemic preparedness efforts.

The New England Journal of Medicine recently published a perspective article, ["Safeguarding Children – Pediatric Research on Medical Countermeasures"](#)

AVIAN FLU

- [Social network analysis used to assess the relationship between the spread of avian influenza and movement patterns of backyard chickens in Ratchaburi, Thailand](#)

News Article

- [FDA delays approval of GSK bird flu vaccine](#)

FLU WEBSITES

www.michigan.gov/flu
www.cdc.gov/flu
www.flu.gov
<http://vaccine.healthmap.org/>

FEBRUARY ACIP MEETING

If you missed the February Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) meeting, the meeting is now [available for viewing](#).

NATIONAL INFANT IMMUNIZATION WEEK (NIVW)

April 20-27 is NIVW - an [annual observance](#) to highlight the importance of protecting infants from vaccine-preventable diseases and celebrate the achievements of immunization programs and their partners in promoting healthy communities.

THE HISTORY OF VACCINES

A new book, [The History of Vaccines](#) was published with a target audience of teens and high school science, health, and history classes.

FluBytes is distributed to MDCH flu partners for informational and communication purposes. Please feel free to distribute widely. Archived editions of FluBytes are available [here](#) and MI FluFocus archives are [here](#).